

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

OF

MADELINE BARLEY  
Home Demonstration Agent

PIMA COUNTY

December 1, 1948 to November 30, 1949

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### OUTLOOK

In preparation for 1950, the Pima County Homemakers and 4OH Club Members have planned and accepted the following projects and program:

#### December

Christmas Parties  
Homemakers' Achievement Day 1949  
4-H Club Recreation School  
4-H Club Leaders' Training Meeting

#### January

County Council Meeting  
Sewing Machine Attachments  
4-H Leaders' Training Meeting

#### February

Children's Clothing

#### March

Color In The Home  
4-H Fair  
4-H Field Day

#### April

Tailored Draperies  
Country Life Conference  
4-H Achievement Days

#### May

Frozen Desserts  
Start Sewing Machine Clinics

#### June

Furniture Arrangements  
4-H Club Canning Demonstrations

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OUTLOOK (continued)

July

Freezing  
Sewing Machine Clinics Continued

August

Food Preservation  
4-H Club Camp

September

Meal Planning  
Council Meeting  
4-H Club Leaders' Training Meeting

October

Study of New Materials  
4-H Club Leaders' Training Meeting  
County Fair

November

Optional  
Achievement Day

December

Christmas Parties

# SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF EXTENSION HOEMAKERS' CLUBS

	Amph.	Desert	Ft. I.	Gvt. H.	Sopori	S. S.	Sage.	Marana	Bing.	Others	Total
Dress Forms Made	17	25	9	6	4	15	10	4	4	5	99
Home Beautification (Outdoor)	6	4	9	3	1	2	3	8	1		34
Served Buffet Meals	18	28	16	5	2	14	12	6	4	19	124
Home Improved Storage	5	3	3	2	1	1	2			6	23
Furniture Upholstered	2	3	5	4	3	2	3	2		5	29
Furniture Refinished	6	13	18	8	7	10	10	6		31	109
Clothing - Coat or Suit	8	10	9	4	2	40	6	12	2	34	75
Clothing - Dress	80	55	36	24	20	22	22		8	32	329*
No. Attending County Life Conference	5	7	8	5							25
No. Helped At County Fair	16	12	12	4		2	6			6	58
No. Having Physical Check Up						4.7% of Homemakers have annual physical examinations					
Purses Made	40	60	12	4		8	12	4	27	33	200
Felt Articles Made	30	24	16			18					88

\* 70% of women sew for themselves

The following abbreviations will be used to identify clubs on Summary Tables through this annual:

Amph. - Amphitheater	Gvt. H. - Government Heights	Sage. - Sagebrush
Desert - Desert	Sopori - Sopori	Marana - Marana
Ft. I. - Ft. Lowell	S. S. - Sunnyside	Bing. - Binghampton

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## ORGANIZATION AND PLANNING

### COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Pima County Council of Homemakers held two meetings during 1949 with 48 members present. The nature of the council has been changed in that other than officers are invited to come and take part in the discussion of the business of the council. The reason for the change involves the theory that when more people know the problems of a community and what is being done about it the more readily those problems can be solved. These interested homemakers help select the projects for the coming year.

The spring meeting of the council is strictly business. At that time officers are selected, programs are discussed and year books are distributed.

At the fall meeting, held in September, the projects for the coming year are selected. Important committees are appointed. A speaker is invited to discuss timely subjects. At the September, 1949 meeting Mr. Fred Fickett, a Tucson lawyer, discussed in a friendly and informal manner the subject "Women's Rights in Arizona." His comments were in the language homemakers could understand. Mr. Fickett, who served as judge for many years, touched on property laws effecting joint property rights, gifts before and after marriage. He also gave vivid examples of parent responsibilities with regard to damages incurred by minors. Many homemakers have requested that this talk be repeated in the future.

ORGANIZATION AND PLANNING (continued)

METHOD OF SELECTING PROJECTS FOR 1950

A questionnaire was sent to each homemaker. This questionnaire contained the problems suggested by the various individual or clubs during the year. Each homemaker made her choice and returned it to the county office. A committee checked these selections and grouped them according to the greatest number requesting them. At the Council Meeting the selected projects plus many other suggested projects are studied. The members of the Council and interested homemakers are divided into groups according to interest in projects. These groups make recommendations for the coming year. The entire council then accepts their recommendations or makes necessary changes. See outlook for projects for 1950.

ORGANIZATION AND PLANNING (continued)

NEW EXTENSION CLUBS

Four new clubs are added to the family of homemakers extension clubs in Pima County and two clubs decided to break away from the family. The new clubs organized are in the area north and east of Tucson from the Amphitheater district to that section between Tucson and Tanque Verde in the Craycroft district. So far as can be detected these clubs are organized as the results of women talking out the activities of extension clubs and as a direct result of newspaper publicity. Dress forms and tailoring are responsible for many requests from women who want to join homemakers clubs.

Sagebrush Homemakers Club

Sagebrush Homemakers Club, which organized December 1948, is made up of a membership of about 22 women living between Alvernon Way and Wilmot Road, north and south of Speedway near Tucson.

Cactus Wrens Homemakers Club

Organized in October, 1949, with a membership of homemakers living in the Ft. Lowell and Binghampton District.

Stitch and Chatter Homemakers Club

Stitch and Chatter club organized in October, 1949, with a membership of homemakers living north of the Amphitheater district.

Craycroft Homemakers Club

The Craycroft Homemakers were organized in November. These women are young wives. They have helped their husbands build their homes, even to making the concrete blocks. Some of their homes are in the process of being completed. Very interesting information was obtained at the organization meeting. For one thing, our hostess painted the walls in the living room the day before the meeting. They are enthusiastic young homemakers and eager to learn new practices and skills.



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ORGANIZATION AND PLANNING ( continued)

NEW EXTENSION CLUBS (continued)

The majority of the women in the Cactus Wrens and Craycroft Clubs were not acquainted with each other. This presented a problem for effective organization and election of officers. It was suggested that each person introduce herself and give a little background information. That is information regarding her talents and experiences. To our surprise, it was soon discovered that among us there were ex-P.T.A. president and secretaries, ex-school teachers, a reporter and many other examples of useful material. Three women volunteered to serve as a nominating committee and the following week the women met again to elect officers.

In order to create a health extension atmosphere at these newly organized clubs and to set the stage showing that in extension we learn by doing, the agent had each woman make for herself a wrist pin cushion. She went away happy with her accomplishment and with her newly acquired sewing aid.

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## HOUSE AND FURNISHINGS

### FURNITURE REFINISHING

Thirty-three leaders gave 32 demonstrations showing how to finish or refinish furniture in standard and modern finishes. As a result of this effort 82 pieces of furniture were completed. This does not include 20 pieces of furniture refinished because of help derived through the bulletins and circulars, making a total of 102 pieces. One mantel was refinished.

Pima County homemakers chose this project because of high price of new furniture, desire to refinish pieces with sentimental value, high cost of having refinishing done commercially. The project was carried by nine homemakers clubs through the cooperation of thirty-three local leaders. Miss Grace Ryan, Extension Specialist in Home Management, gave two major demonstrations. One showing the standard finish, the other showing modern finishes. Two kits were prepared with detailed examples of the steps necessary to apply the finish. The two kits circulated among the clubs in the county on a scheduled basis. Leaders were made responsible for their distribution and safety. The kit of standard finishes was lost. It had been left on a leaders' back porch in error. Early one morning the garbage collector mistaking it for something he should collect picked it up. It contained the leg of a piece of furniture which was valued highly by its owner.

At the first demonstration Miss Ryan showed them how to prepare the wood by sanding it. Each leader made for herself a "sanding block" and "felt block". The felt block was used to polish the wood in the process of applying the finish.

Miss Ryan introduced University of Arizona Extension Circular #149, "In Furniture the Finish Counts," which she prepared. All the methods used in this project are described and illustrated in this circular.

The agent was not in the county during this project. The leaders were very faithful in giving the demonstrations and helping others in small work shop meetings. Mrs. Earl Rickell, of Government Heights, refinished a mantel in her home and expressed great satisfaction in the results. Her husband had tried to insist on a marble mantel.

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HOUSE AND FURNISHINGS (continued)

FURNITURE REFINISHING (continued)

Homemakers who participated in this project are divided into two definite classes. Those who like standard finishes with no exceptions and those who follow high styles in furniture and practice quick changes in their furniture according to current featured finishes.

If any one leader could be mentioned because of achievement, Mrs. Annie Dail of Ft. Lowell Homemakers Club should have honorable mention. She refinished four pieces of furniture, recovered two pieces and helped with eleven other pieces. Mrs. Dail was a leader in upholstering in 1948.

SUMMARY SHEET - FURNITURE REFINISHING

	Ampk.	Desert	Ft.L.	Gvt.H.	Sopori	S.S.	Sage.	Marana	Young Wives	Other	Total
Repaired frames of furniture			2			3		1	3		9
Finished or refinished wood		10	14	8	4	8	8	4	6		70
Recovered pieces of furniture	2	3	5	4	3	2	3	2	5		26
Pieces completed	16	13	18	8	7	10	10	6	11	20	109
Meetings held (other than club meetings)		2	2	1		2	3	1			11
No. Present		12	18	10		10	13	6			69
No. enrolled in club	45	30	45	27	17	15	18	20	35		252
No. of demonstrations at club meetings	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2		18
No. attending	49	31	45	33	25	20	25	22	60		310
No. of Leaders	4	4	4	4	3	4	4	2	4		31

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## NUTRITION AND HEALTH

### BUFFET MEALS AND HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING

Pima County homemakers enjoyed the demonstrations in March, 1949, Buffet Meals and Holiday Entertaining. Thirty local foods leaders attended the training meeting. Six clubs with an attendance of 133 participated in the project.

The spring season stimulated many novel ideas for table decorations. Emphasis was placed on decorations that can be made at home with things already at hand in contrast with expensive ready prepared decorations.

Three schemes were selected to stimulate interest.

#### 1. St. Patrick

Colors, yellow and green  
Flowers, shamrock and jonquils  
Candles in grapefruit as holders  
Center piece,  $\frac{1}{2}$  grapefruit filled with shamrocks. (In Arizona where shamrocks are hard to get, Oxalis was substituted for them.)

#### 2. Easter

Egg shells broken in two and fastened end to end (waxed) to look like egg cups. These egg cups were waxed, therefore held water. They were used as small containers for violets. Eight small cups filled with violets made the center piece. Four candles in order to form a rectangle were placed near the flowers. The candle holders are made from empty  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch spools of adhesive covered with white paper. A paper lace doily was used to cover the top of the spool.

#### 3. Springtime Scheme

Spring flowers were used (Jonquils again). This was used as the general one to show adaptability of common flowers in season.

Food was also an important item in this project and demonstration. Leaders prepared and served a buffet meal to illustrate answers to important questions concerning buffet meals served at extension club meetings. Too often in extension club meetings covered dishes are brought with no definite plans made beforehand. Generally there is no order of service at these meals. The food is placed helter skelter on the tables with, maybe, the meat course near the dessert or the bread near the silver ware, far from the appointed place.

Miss Reva Lincon, Extension Nutritionist, demonstrated serving a buffet meal with two intire sets of complete services, including

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## NUTRITION AND HEALTH (continued)

### BUFFET MEALS AND HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING (continued)

the entire menu except for the beverage and dessert. A complete menu was placed on the two long sides of the table. Small tables were placed in the room. The beverage and dessert were served by the hostess.

This demonstration has been one of the most practical ones we have had in Pima County regarding food service. A check of accomplishment sheets shows that 53% of the homemakers are serving buffet meals, with an average of one buffet meal for each of the homemakers enrolled in extension clubs. Another interesting feature of these reports shows buffet meals are more popular during May, June, July, and August. These meals lend themselves to outdoor living characteristic of the southwest.

### MORE FOOD FOR YOUR MONEY

"More Food For Your Money" was the subject of one of the food projects for Pima County Homemakers. Miss Reva Lincoln, Extension Nutritionist, met with 17 leaders from 7 extension clubs and demonstrated the value of foods, relating the money value to the nutritional value. This project got off to a good start with Mrs. Arthur Stearns and Mrs. J. R. Hanson putting on a one act play called "Mrs. Penny Wise and Mrs. Pound Foolish". Miss Lincoln worked with both leaders in preparing for the meeting. Following the skit the nutritionist conducted a discussion group using the skit and charts to emphasize the relative value of foods.

Local leaders did a fine job of carrying out the demonstration in their local clubs. Eight clubs with an attendance of 150 participated in this demonstration. It was necessary for the local leaders to rewrite the skit to fit the situation in the community. Leaders make the comment to the effect that their background in nutrition is not adequate to answer the many questions asked by the members in the respective clubs. Mrs. Hanson and Mrs. Stearns made a recording of this skit. It was broadcast over one of the local radio stations. "Mrs. Penny Wise and Mrs. Pound Foolish" illustrates what can be done with the money allotted to foods in the family budget. By careful planning the homemaker is able to include food of high nutritional value but less expensive in comparison with expensive foods with the same nutritional value or with foods of less nutritional value.

NUTRITION AND HEALTH (continued)

MORE FOOD FOR YOUR MONEY (continued)

LEADERS' REPORTS

- 13 homemakers pledged to serve more broccoli and cauliflower
- 13 homemakers pledged to serve more can milk
- 12 homemakers pledged to serve more eggs
- 12 homemakers pledged to serve more liver
- 12 homemakers pledge to watch their diet (one reports a loss of 5 lbs.)
- 12 homemakers pledge to notice labels more carefully
- 12 homemakers pledged to cut out pies and cakes and serve more wholesome desserts

Other leaders expressed themselves in other terms with these results.  
Homemakers expect:

- To buy foods in season
- To become cost conscious in relation to food value
- To buy more canned and frozen foods when they are priced low
- To learn to bake breads, cakes, and cookies which make good meals
- To cut down on grocery bills
- To be more conscious of luxury items
- To substitute cheaper items with same or better food values



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NUTRITION AND HEALTH (continued)

FOOD PRESERVATION

A total of 163 families in Pima County received help with food preservation problems during 1949. Food preservation was not part of the planned extension program except for freezing. The agent was absent for four months during the spring and summer resulting in no freezing demonstrations for the year. However, there was much individual help given to homemakers affiliated with extension service and others.

Eighty-five families were assisted with canning problems. Homemakers were concerned with problems regarding cost of fruit, methods of preservation, equipment necessary, storage and spoilage. Accomplishment sheets show that 17.6% of the homemakers can in Pima County.

With very few exceptions most families buy fruit for canning. In season, peaches, apricots and pears are comparatively inexpensive in Tucson and Pima County.

Approximately 1076 quarts of fruits were canned by homemakers and other women of Pima County. The increase of canned fruits and vegetables entered in competition at the Pima County Fair illustrates an interest in canning.

Every opportunity is made to encourage the water bath method for canning fruits. All individual help that is given includes emphasis in the use of the water bath method.

The homemakers clubs planned small fairs at their September meetings. Canned fruits and jellies were brought to be judged. With a standard score card the fruit was judged. To make sure that examples of good and bad practices were represented at those gatherings, the agent carried them along with her. The women soon learned to pick out faults and were judging on principles rather than ownership. Jars representing open kettle method, with few exceptions, rated low in comparison with the cold pack and water bath method.

Mrs. Dorothea Harold has been canning for many years. She grows her own fruit. According to her admission she has always canned by the open kettle. Judging at the club meeting showed a marked difference in the quality of the canned fruit. Mrs. Harold decided to buy pears which were selling for  $4\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per pound. She left the club meeting at 4 ;.m. and by 8:30 p.m. the same day she had processed a bog (20#) of pears by the water bath method. Since then she has processed six more bags. Needless to say she is very proud of her accomplishment.



NUTRITION AND HEALTH (continued)

FOOD PRESERVATION (continued)

The judging at the homemakers extension clubs paid off later at the County Fair. Women were prepared to accept a higher standard of judging and complied with rules as are set up in standard score cards. Mrs. Harold is only one many who were convinced of the superiority of the water bath method for canning fruits. U.S.D.A., AIS-64 bulletin was used.

FREEZING

Freezing is of special interest to one particular community in Pima County. At Marana a neighborhood of 21 families live 40 miles from Tucson and 25 miles from a local grocery store in Cortaro. Under these conditions these women shop once a week or very ten days. There are 12 freezers in this neighborhood. The freezers range from 6 cu. ft. to 12 cu. ft. and because of their shopping problems these freezers are used effectively to store food for immediate use as well as for future use.

Upon request, the agent gave a demonstration in one of the homes. Because they had problems the demonstration was confined to packaging fruits and vegetables, baked goods and prepared meats and poultry. The agent also demonstrated how to wrap bread to keep it fresh and moist. The freezing methods demonstrated are those given in the U.S.D.A. bulletins and the Cornell University bulletins.

Mrs. C. B. Treadwell has had her freezer longer than the others and long enough to build traditions around its use at holiday seasons. She reports that her holiday meals are prepared ahead of time. She claims she enjoyed the holidays as much as her family and guests.

Freezing was not one of the major projects for the year, however, 72 families were assisted with freezing problems. These families prepared peaches, apricots, plums, figs, okra, apinach and berries. Mrs. Eldon Brown who raises 150 chickens and 2 turkeys per year prepared one turkey according to the methods described and illustrated in U.S.D.A., Farmers' Bulletin 2011. The turkey steaks are wrapped two to a package (her family consists of 2 persons). A turkey breast wrapped in foil makes a favorable piece of poultry for Sunday dinners according to Mrs. Brown's comments.

Mrs. Treadwell and Mrs. Brown are two of many who are enjoying the luxury of entire meals prepared in advance and stored safely in a freezer.

NUTRITION AND HEALTH (continued)

FOOD PRESERVATION (continued)

FREEZING( continued)

A fair estimate of the amount of food prepared by the women assisted from this office:

Chickens (fryers and roasters)	3550 birds
Turkeys	30 birds
Fruits ( peaches, apricots, figs) (plums and berries)	1440 pounds
Vegetables (Squash, spinach, beans)	350 pounds
Prepared foods	Unable to estimate

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## CLOTHING AND TEXTILES

### DRESS FORMS

Thirty-two homemakers helped make 99 dress forms in Pima County during January, February and March of 1949. Miss Helen Church, Extension Clothing Specialist, demonstrated to 32 local leaders, representing 8 organized extension clubs. These 32 leaders met with Miss Helen Church and the agent at two leaders' training meetings.

#### Materials Used And Methods

Each dress form requires 2 rolls of 1" gummed paper and two T-shirts. The T-shirts fit snugly and reach 6 or 7 inches below the hips. The training meeting featured a demonstration by Miss Church and the agent with the help of two others. One of the others posed for the form. Time for making a form can be 35 minutes. The demonstration is followed by a work meeting. Four leaders from a club make a form, one posing while three build the form. The method used is exacting in that the paper is applied carefully along a certain pattern to insure good lines over the shoulders, bust, waist and hips. It is necessary to work fast while the form is being made and after it has been cut off the person. The form is opened from the bottom to top in the middle of the front and back. Then it is put together again immediately before it dries and gets out of shape. The form is trimmed at the neck, shoulders and hips. Shellacking the form inside and out is probably the most important step. The shellack gives it a permanent stiffness.

#### Marking The Form

Miss Church demonstrated how to mark the forms and how to make the standard for it. (The illustrations show the form in different stages of development.) The second T-shirt was fitted over the shellacked form. Black  $\frac{1}{4}$ " twill tape was used to mark the neck, bust, waist and other necessary marking. (See illustration.) The standard is made with two wooden platforms. One platform makes the bottom of the form itself and is cut to the shape of the bottom of the form. The other platform need not be the same shape but may be a rectangular piece of wood. Three uprights connect these platforms. The height of the uprights is determined by the height of the person for whom the form is made.

The T-shirt is thumb tacked to the edge of the upper platform. (See illustration.) The average cost of the dress forms made in Pima County is \$3.30 each. Compared to commercially made ones costing from \$10 to \$22 each this project represents a great saving for homemakers. A conservative estimate of the saving is about \$6.63.

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CLOTHING AND TEXTILES (Continued)

DRESS FORMS (Continued)

Use And Appreciation Of Dress Forms

The local leaders deserve credit for the splendid work accomplished in this project. They organized small neighborhood groups where two or three dress forms were made in one afternoon. The greatest number made in one day at a dress form workshop was at Mrs. Effie Shofner's home, a member of the Desert Homemakers Club. Eleven forms were made by 16 women. These leaders do not recommend this procedure because the forms cannot receive the necessary attention needed while the gummed paper is drying.

Ninety-four women with completed dress forms are pleased because many of their fitting problems are being solved. The homemakers report improved practices in clothing construction and fitting. The time element cannot be omitted in considering the advantages of using the form. In the tailoring projects those women having dress forms found it so much easier to work with the muslin model of their coats or suits. The form was also a great help in making the suit itself.

The storage problem involved in small Arizona homes has been taken care of very nicely. The dress form stands, dressed in either a dress or coat, in an inconspicuous corner of the bedroom. It therefore ceases to be a problem and becomes an emblem of action in that home.

Evaluation Of Project

According to the reports, improvements in clothing construction with the dress form may be classified as follows:

1. Saves time.
2. Better fit in shoulders and sleeve cap.
3. Neck line.
4. Fit of blouse as to length and bust.
5. Hem line.
6. Self-satisfaction because of better all around results.
7. Women who lacked confidence because of self-fitting problems appreciate the forms more than others.

This project was valuable as a teaching and learning device because -

8. The information for making dress forms was given by doing by the leaders. They showed how by using the the completed article and then had others do it.

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CLOTHING AND TEXTILES (continued)

DRESS FORMS (continued)

Evaluation Of Project (continued)

9. Directions have been sent to relatives and friends in other states. The following is a quotation taken from the report submitted by Miss Frances Alikonis of the Desert Homemakers:

" I wrote to many people about the dress form and to my knowledge ten were made. I received a personal letter from my sister - which I'm inclosing - and which is self-explanatory. Since I received the letter two more dress forms were made with success. I think the "beauty" of this well-made dress form is that the average homemaker can well afford it. Some of the ones that are made in the stores are \$20 plus and I must say, way beyond the average pocketbook. I have been asked about the dress forms by many women - other than the homemakers and as soon as I have more time will teach these friends. My schedule has been full plus maintaining a full time job (average 56 hours per week).

"First of all, one of the girls start talking about dress forms yesterday, and I told her I had instructions in my desk -- so she got soeager to make them -- they came over last nite -- three other girls from the office and myself and we made two forms last night. One for Elsie Jones and one for myself. They turned out beautifully. Don't know why I didn't get enthusiastic about making one before, but the instructions looked so complicated, I just thought I'd get around to it one of these days - like a m illion and one other things I have to do. Now we have two more to do--the two other girls want theirs the first of the week. It took us two hours for each form. Mine came out beautifully, and I'm going to have Bill mount it for me over the week-end and shellac it. Bill was gone when we made them -- and he thought I was asleep when he came it -- but I had just crawled in bed -- I had the form on the dining room table so he could see it, when he went in there to hang his clothes -- I heard him laughing and a big, "Well, I'll be damned." I guess he was so surprised to see it there-- and he really thought we were kinda nutty trying to make them out of paper -- but he thinks it's very professional looking. So when he got in bed -- he still thought I was sleeping --I whispered "So you like my figger....." And he just burst out laughing. We kids had so much fun doing it, and have been laughing about it all day long."



SUMMARY SHEET - DRESS FORMS

CLUBS

	Amphi.	Desert	Ft. L.	Gvt.H.	Sopori	S. S.	Sage.	Marana	Bing.	Other	Total
Leaders	4	4	4	4	2	5	2	3	2	2	32
No. of days leaders spent helping with this unit	56	58	28	4	4	32	27	12	12	2	
How many forms were made	17	25	9	6	4	15	10	4	4	5	99
How many were mounted and marked	17	25	9	6	4	15	5	4	4	5	94
How many have improved fitting by using them	17	25	6	6	4	15	10	4	4	5	99

COST OF EACH FORM

2 T-shirts	@ 87¢	\$1.74
1½ roll gummed paper	@ 57¢	.86
tape		.20
standards		.50
		<u>\$3.30</u>

VALUE OF COMPLETED FORM \$10.00  
 SAVING 6.70  
 TOTAL COST OF ALL FORMS - \$3.30 x 99 = \$326.70  
 TOTAL SAVED ON ALL FORMS- \$6.70 x 99 = \$663.30

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Picture illustrates dress form shellacked and ready to be mounted on standards. Note the neckline, armsye and hip line have been trimmed and covered neatly.

Photo by

Mrs. Minnie Birdsall  
Amphitheater



Picture shows local leaders at work fitting T-shirts on shellacked dress forms. Note the platform board with connecting uprights. Center one is shaped like the one fitted to the form. Platform to the right is a rectangle.





Picture shows four stanges of development in making a dress form.  
From left to right:

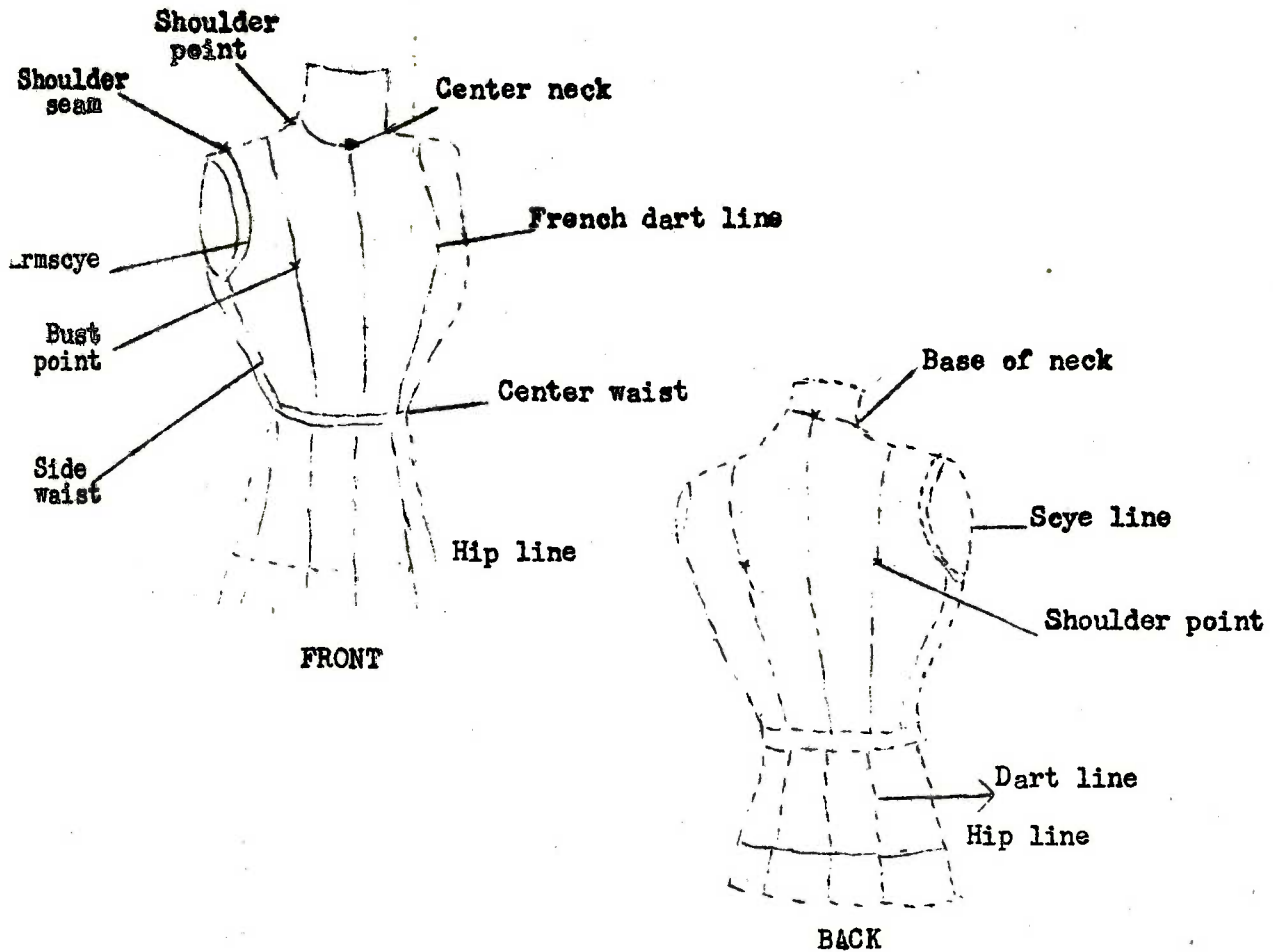
- 1st The shellacked form
- 2nd T-shirt is being fitted to the form. It is necessary for T-shirt to be very snug.
- 3rd Note how the neck and armsye have been treated. The T-shirt is pulled and fastened securely to upper platform.
- 4th Note markings. Neck line, waist line, armscye line, hip line and French dart (starts at midline of shoulder follows downward over center of bust. From this point it drops in a plumb line perpendicular to the waist and hip line.



Picture shows Mrs. Ann Sylvester, Ft. Lowell,  
making a practical application of her dress form.

## MARKING THE DRESS FORM

Helen L. Church, Extension Specialist in Clothing



### 1. NECKLINE

Located by placing tape around the base of the neck where the neck joins the shoulder allowing it to pass above the large bone at the base of the neck and through the middle of the pit in the front of the neck. \_\_\_\_\_ inches.

### 2. ARMSCYE

Place tape over top of arm, tape should lie parallel to center front and back as far down as chest line, then a curve follows gradually to underarm. Usually placing a tape tightly around arm and loosening it  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches gives correct measurement, within  $\frac{3}{8}$  in. \_\_\_\_\_ inches.

### 3. SHOULDER LINE

Shoulder line falls from top of large muscle below bone in back of ear. A straight line from this point out to high point of shoulder top. This forms a straight line which is invisible from front or back. \_\_\_\_\_ inches.

#### 4. BUST LINE

The bust line passes around body over tip of breasts up to tip of shoulder blade in back, across back in parallel line to floor.

#### 5. FRENCH DART LINE

French dart line begins at midpoint on the shoulder line to tip of bust, then downward to floor parallel to the center front. In the back the line runs from midpoint of shoulder to tip of shoulder blade then straight down to floor.

#### 6. WAISTLINE

The waistline is located at the smallest part of the back which lies between the lower rib and the top of the pelvic bone. \_\_\_\_\_ inches.

#### 7. HIP LINE

Hip line varies from 7 to 10 inches below the waistline, the wrist should touch this line. \_\_\_\_\_ inches.

### Using Your Dress Form

Before you begin fitting on the form, place shoulder pads of thickness required in the pattern. Remember, as you place a garment on the figure to leave the left side open 10 inches or more below and above the waistline. The dress form is rigid and does not give. As you try to put on the form your ready-made dresses, you may think the form is too big. This is especially true if you happen to have broad shoulders.

The French dart line that has been placed on the form is your guide for placement of darts, namely the shoulder, waist, and skirt dart. This line is also your designing line such as the princess line, the line of division in blouse and jacket patterns. In fitting on this form, we allow for the following amounts of ease:

Chest - 1/2 inch  
Bust - 4 inches  
Hips - 2 inches  
Length of waist - 1/2 inch

Pinch up 1/8-inch pinch tuck  
Pinch up an inch tuck  
Pinch up 1/2-inch tuck

Madeline Barley  
Pima County  
1949

CLOTHING AND TEXTILES (continued)

TAILORING

Coats and suits dominate the attention of more than 75 homemakers from all over Pima County. The project started in September, 1949, and continued through October and November. The project is complete except for the style show which will take place December 14, at the Sunny Side School Auditorium. Miss Helen Church, Extension Clothing Specialist, and the agent met with 82 women to discuss plans for the tailoring project. Miss Church showed illustrations of styles. One of the local stores sent bolts of fabric suitable for suits and coats with lining to match.

There was a review of methods for altering patterns. Each woman made tailoring equipment which included a tailoring ham, cushion and seam roll. Miss Church demonstrated how to make and use a press cloth made of a piece of wool approximately 14" by 27" stitched to a piece of muslin (not new) of the same size.

The homemakers made muslin models of their respective suits or coats. These were checked carefully by Miss Church and altered to fit as nearly perfect as possible. The changes made on the muslin pattern were transferred to the paper pattern and the wool fabric was cut ready to be basted for the first fitting.

WHAT MAKES A HOMEMADE SUIT NOT LOOK LIKE A HOMEMADE SUIT

Homemakers learned the tricks that make homemade suits not look like homemade suits. As the project progressed some doubted that they could accomplish the desired results. Miss Church very seriously insisted on the finest performance from each woman after she demonstrated how to

1. Make a well-fitted muslin model
2. Select and apply the proper facing to match the fabric of the garment
3. Make shoulder pads to fit the individual
4. Make perfect bound button holes
5. Put in the collar so that the edges of the collar, lapels and facing are trim and neat
6. Make pockets - either welt or slit
7. Shrink the wool at the top of the sleeve and skirt hem
8. Sew in the sleeve
9. Hem the sleeve and coat with a muslin inter-facing so that no stitches show
10. Top stitch on the garment
11. Sew on the buttons to insure an adequate shank to take care of the thickness of the facings
12. Put in the lining
13. Sew on the shirt belt
14. How to appreciate a well made tailored garment

Madeline Barley  
Pima County  
1949

CLOTHING AND TEXTILES (continued)

TAILORING (continued)

Illustrative material used in this project was U.S.D.A. Misc. Pub. # 591 and U.S.D.A. F. B. # 1894.

Eighty-five percent of the women caught the fine spirit of adopting the high standards of clothing construction and applied them diligently. Five percent forged ahead using their own methods and ideas, disregarding the instructions given, only to discover to their amazement that their methods were inferior and produced undesirable results. These few learned the hard way because they had to do it over.

The suits are all finished. They will be on review at the County Achievement Day Program. Statistics regarding costs and other results will be in the annual of 1950.





Miss Helen Church, Extension Clothing Specialist, illustrates how to press shoulder pads. Note that she is using a press cloth made of wool and muslin. The shoulder pad is pressed over a small tailoring cushion to bet the desired shape.

Photo by

Mrs. Minnie Birdsall  
Amphitheater



Picture illustrates the process of fitting the muslin model in preparation to cutting of wool fabric.

Photo by

Mrs. Minnie Birdsall  
Amphitheater



Madeline Barley  
Pima County  
1949

CLOTHING AND TEXTILES (continued)

SEWING MACHINE CLINICS

Two sewing machine clinics were held in Pima County in 1949. Fifteen machines, all Singers, were cleaned by 15 homemakers under the guidance of Miss Helen Church, Extension Clothing Specialist, and the agent. This marks the beginning of a sewing machine project in Pima County.

The machines are taken apart and cleaned, then put back together in good running order. Illustrative materials used are charts with order of cleaning directions and U.S.D.A. F.B. # 1944.

Homemakers appreciate learning how to clean and adjust their sewing machines. The program is set up so that each person experiences taking her machine apart, checking the position of each part. Many women were surprised at the amount of gummed oil that had collected between and behind the working appts of the machine. They were surprised at the ease with which the gummed oil disappeared after a little scrubbing with the hard bristled brushes. Dull machines became bright again much to their delight.



Picture shows homemakers working with machine in  
the process of cleaning them.  
Note dress form in the background

Photo by                      Mrs. Minnie Birsdall, Amphitheater



Picture shows delight in knowing that her machine operates better than before. Note direction chart on the wall

Photo by

Mrs. Minnie Birdsall  
Amphitheater

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CLOTHING AND TEXTILES ( continued)

PLASTIC PURSES

More than 200 plastic purses have been made by homemakers in Pima County. This was done independently of the planned program and projects. The purses are all similar in style with slight variations as to combinations of color or grain in the plastic material. The opening is a steel spring which makes an opening when it is pulled apart and closes tight again by springing back into position. The average cost of a purse is \$1.25. One woman has made more than 15 of them. Several others have made more than eight each.

The value of mentioning this project is not because of the purses themselves. In the final analysis, the women may be using more time and effort than the purse is worth. The reason for mentioning this project is that it has grown to that point where nine out of nine clubs are participating. The organization work has been done completely by the homemakers. They hold leaders meetings and demonstrate how to make the purses. To date they have held three leaders meetings and have given 12 other demonstration. The agent has not given any of her time except to admire the purses. She does appreciate knowing that women will go after something when they really want it and they carry it to a conclusion. It is doubted if they will ever know exactly how many purses have been made, are being made and will be made because of their influence. This should be a lesson to the agent in the use of leaders training in planning programs for the future.

VOLUNTEER WORKERS HELP AT COUNTY FAIR

Two county fairs and one on 4-H Club Market Day requires the help of many volunteer helpers. True to form Pima County homemakers have their time and services to help carry these fairs to completion. A committee made up of a representative from each extension club met to organize the details involved in conducting the Domestic Arts Department at the County Fair. A division of labor was made. Duties were assigned for the opening day when exhibitors brought in their exhibits. It is easy to find volunteers for the second day of our fair when the articles are judged. For obvious reasons the women watch and listen with interest to the comments made by the judges. They find it a learning experience.

The fall fair was much larger than the spring fair. Approximately 250 women exhibited more than 1500 articles in baked good, canned and frozen food, clothing, quilts and other household articles.

RECREATION - ADULT

Christmas spirit prevails at the December meetings of Extension Clubs. All organized clubs celebrated with parties, but they did not forget the less fortunate. The Arizona Children's Home and the rheumatic fever patients at the Tucson Medical Center received many gifts from the homemakers. These gifts included metal trays, pajamas, and other items such as toys and clothing.

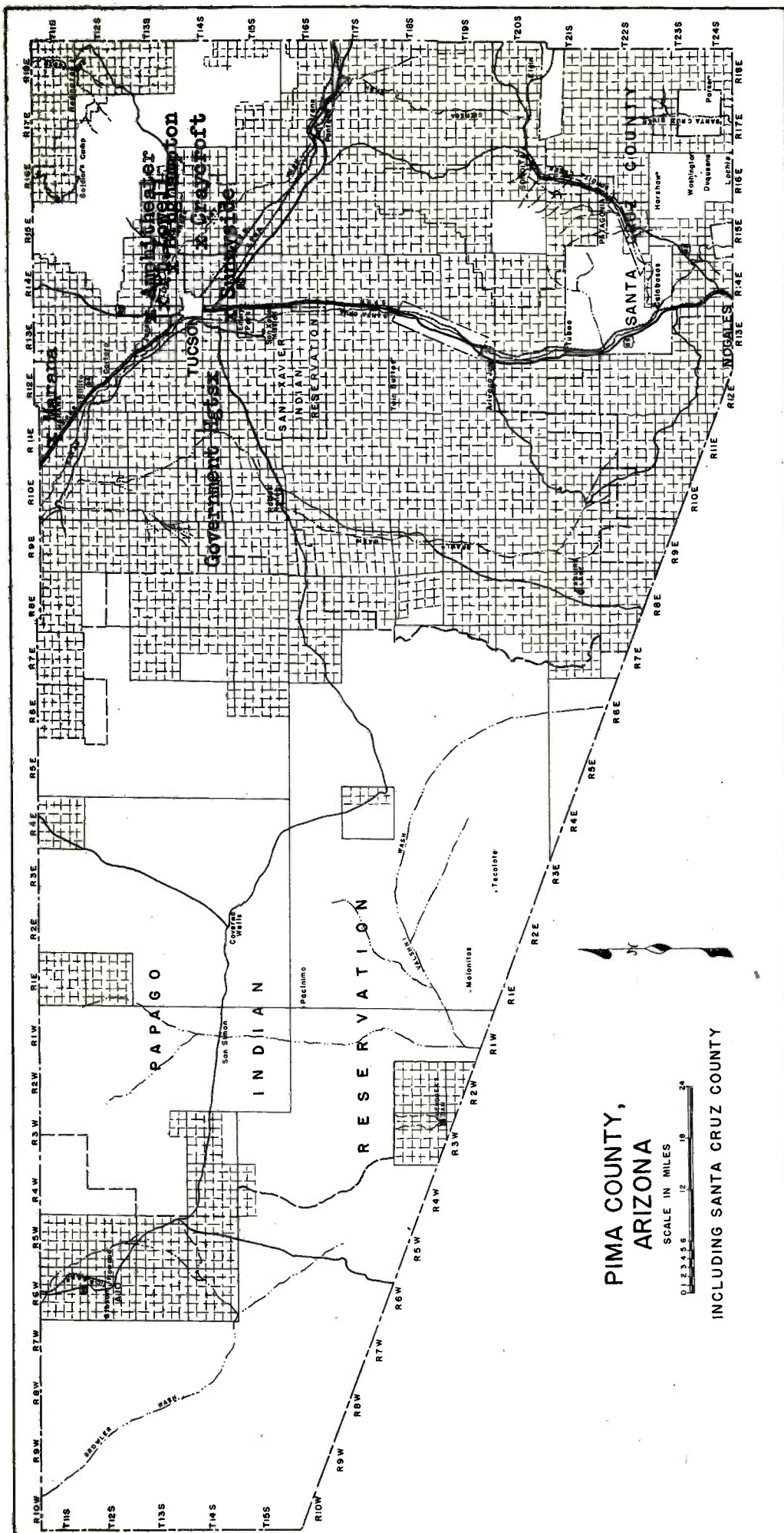
Miss Edith Talbert, Executive Secretary for the Arizona Children's Home, furnished the homemakers with a list of names with sex and age of each child. The list made it easier to get gifts for the children.

Divided metal trays were gifts of the Sopori Homemakers. The annual Christmas Bazaar was the means of financing the purchase of trays for the children.

Homemakers made felt articles including sneakers, tams, hats, purses and belts for Christmas. These were gifts for members of their families and for their friends. Some of these articles are made of new as well as old felt. Mrs. Mary Morningside of the Desert Homemakers was stimulated to write the following:

"Daddy's felt hat was his favorite  
The style just couldn't be beat  
But Mama had a bright idea  
And now-she wears it on her feet."





LOCATION & NUMBER OF HOMEMAKERS' CLUBS IN PIMA COUNTY

Amphitheater	2 clubs	Binghamton	1 club	Government Heights	1 club
Ft. Lowell	3 clubs	Sunnyside	1 club	Marana	
		Sopor	1 club		